

**In the specification:**

On page 7, under the title 'Brief Description of the Drawings' please delete the third paragraph.

Under the section entitled Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments, on page 12, please replace the first paragraph with the following paragraph.

In one embodiment of the present invention the selection process 220 comprises a step for determining whether the floating-point operation is an addition operation or subtract operation. In response to the determination that the operation is an addition operation, the selection process 200 makes a decision to select the result from the long path process 240 and passes this decision to the result selection step 250. On the other hand, in response to the determination that the operation is a subtraction operation, the selection process 200 proceeds to determine the exponent difference for the two operands. In response to the determination that the exponent difference is larger than 1, the process 200 makes the decision to select the result from the long path process 240 and passes this decision to the result selection step 250. In response to the determination that the exponent difference is 0, the process 200 makes a decision to select the result from the short path process 230 and passes this decision to the result selection step 250. In response to the determination at step 225 that the exponent difference is 1, the process 200 proceeds to determine whether the mantissa of the operand with the larger exponent is less than 1.5 (or not greater than 1.5 if the selection rule in Table IV is used). In response to the determination that the larger mantissa is less than 1.5 (or not greater than 1.5 if the selection rule in Table IV is used), the process 200 makes the decision to select the result from the short path process 230 and passes this decision to the result selection step 250. On the other hand, in response to the determination that the mantissa of